

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for improving ~~depression-like~~ depressive symptoms, which comprises:

administering to a ~~patient-in-need thereof~~ subject suffering from at least one of the following symptoms: hypobulia, general fatigue, sluggishness, enervation, deterioration in concentration, memory impairment, abnormal sensation, obtundation, impaired sight, decline in thinking power, indefinite complaint, drop in operation efficiency, or feeling of malaise an effective amount of D-ribose to relieve at least one of said symptoms, provided that the symptoms are not accompanied by alcoholism.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The method for improving ~~depression-like~~ depressive symptoms according to claim 1, wherein the ~~depression-like~~ depressive symptoms are hypobulia, ~~general fatigue, sluggishness, enervation, deterioration in concentration, memory impairment, abnormal sensation/obtundation such as impaired sight, decline in thinking power, indefinite complaint, drop in operation efficiency,~~ or feeling of malaise.

3. **(Cancelled)**

4. **(Currently Amended)** The method for improving ~~depression-like~~ depressive symptoms according to ~~claim 1 or 2~~, claim 1, which comprises administering D-ribose in an amount of 10 mg to 100 g per day for an adult.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The method for improving ~~depression-like~~ depressive symptoms according to ~~claim 1 or 2~~, claim 1, which further comprises administering at least one of a magnesium salt, an amino acid and carnitine.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The method for improving ~~depression-like~~ depressive symptoms according to ~~claim 1 or 2~~, claim 1, which further comprises administering potassium magnesium aspartate.

7-8. **(Cancelled)**

9. **(Currently Amended)** A method for improving mental fatigue, which comprises:
administering to a subject in need thereof ~~[[and]]~~ an effective amount of D-ribose.

Amendment in Response to Office Action of October 10, 2007

10. (New) A method for improving depressive symptoms, which comprises:

administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of D-ribose from 10 mg to 100 g per day and magnesium in an amount of 2 mg to 500 mg per day to relieve at least one symptom selected from hypobulia, general fatigue, sluggishness, enervation, deterioration in concentration, memory impairment, abnormal sensation, obtundation, impaired sight, decline in thinking power, indefinite complaint, drop in operation efficiency, or feeling of malaise.

11. (New) The method for improving depressive symptoms according to claim 1, wherein the depressive symptoms are hypobulia, enervation, or feeling of malaise.

12. (New) A method for treating depression, which comprises:

administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of D-ribose from 10 mg to 100 g per day to relieve said depression.

13. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein said subject is also administered magnesium in an amount of from 20 to 500 mg per day.